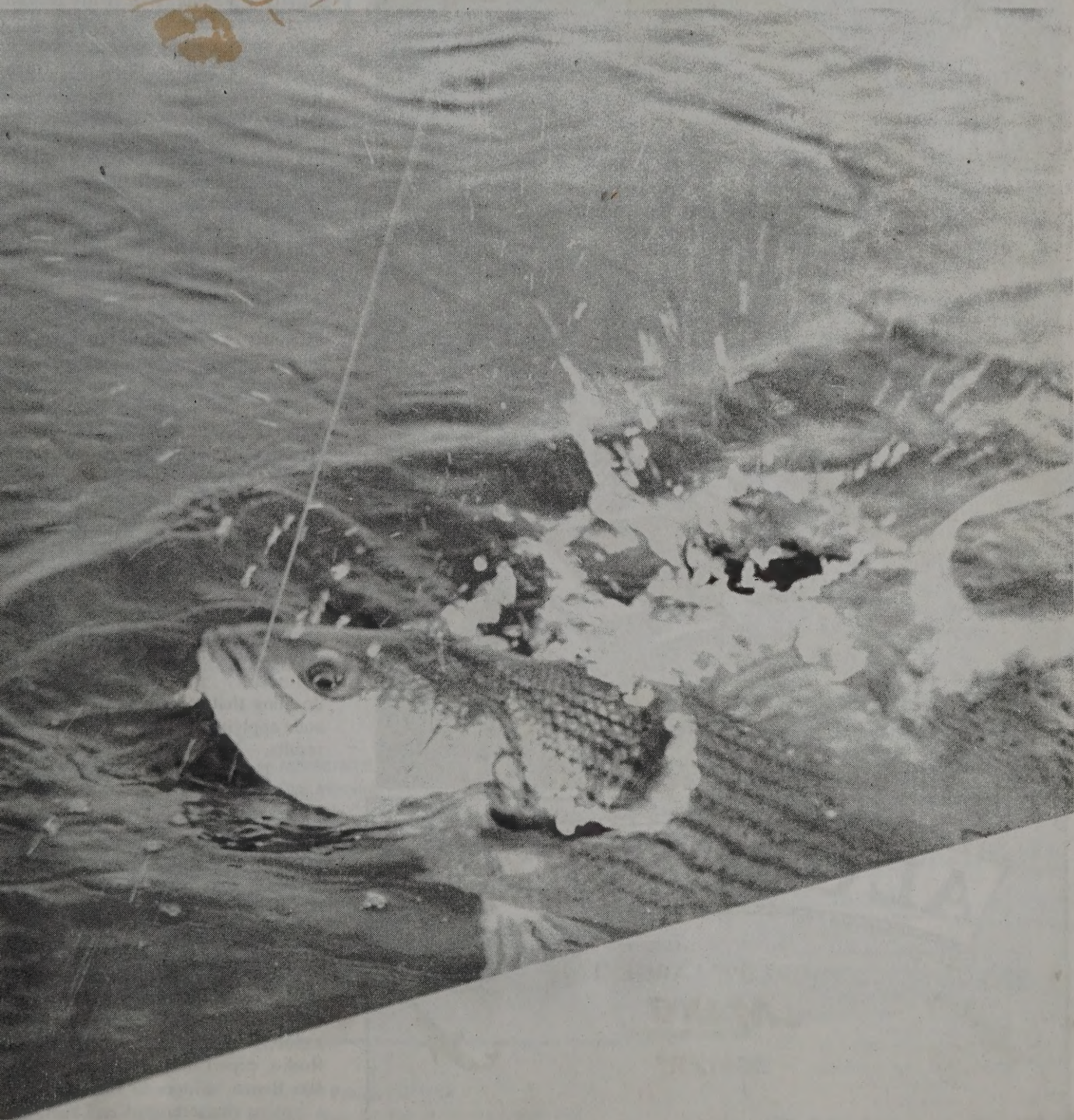


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The Long Island **FISHERMAN**

MARCH 29th, ISSUE NO. 11, 1973

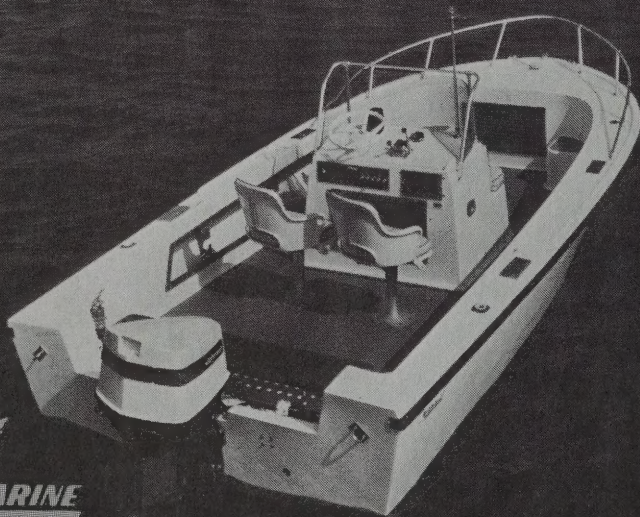


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STRIPED BASS FUND NEWS Marine Scientists Comments On Water Quality

Dr. Jack Pearce, Director of the Sandy Hook Marine Laboratories, was addressing an overflow audience of more than 450 fishermen and environmentalists at the Striped Bass Fund "fish in" on the closing day of the Jersey Coast Boat Show in Asbury Park, N.J.

Dr. Pearce's commentary on Water Quality and Marine Game Fish encompassed almost three centuries of change. "In 1609 the journal of Henry Hudson's voyages mentioned the abundance of fishes and pure waters in the river. For two and a half centuries the Hudson River supported immense commercial and sports fisheries."

Because the major portion of sea life exists in inshore waters, Dr. Pearce remarks highlighted the ravages of local pollution problems. Over the years, commercial fishing, party boats and even sportfishing boats have been pushed out of the bays and now rely more on deep water grounds.

Dr. Pearce illustrated this with two examples of a larger total concern, "One billion gallons of contaminated sewage flow daily under the Verrazano Bridge and out into the Atlantic Ocean. If you walk along the beaches you see large clumps of tar and oily residue. These have an effect on marine life."

Dr. Pearce mentioned other problems including over fertilization, marsh land destruction siltation, DDT, and thermal additions all of which have their impacts.

In conclusion he said, "We have seen the quality of the marine resources going slowly down hill . . . but I am an optimist. . . it is simply a question of deciding that something has to be done and applying enough pressure to see results.

The "fish in" program was the culmination of a ten day recruiting effort in New Jersey by the Striped Bass Fund, an organization formed to sponsor research, education and where necessary litigation to protect the habitat of the striped bass. . . spawning, nursery and migratory waters.

The speakers reflecting the broad interests of the fund included fishing tips from Al Reinfelder, President of the Striped Bass Fund, Mark Sosin, famed lecturer, writer and sportsman, Milt Rosko, expert on jetty and surf fishing, Jim Renzo, skipper of the "Black Fin" a famous charterboat, Ken Lauer, noted

Continued on Pg. 4



The Long Island FISHERMAN

THE LARGEST WEEKLY GUIDE FOR FISHERMEN IN THE N.Y. AREA

VOL. 8, NO. 11

MARCH 29, 1973

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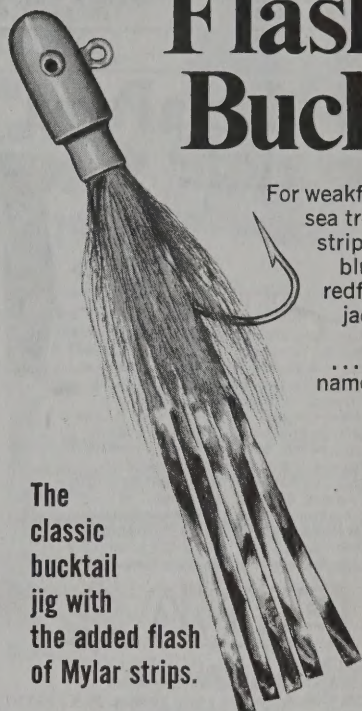
FRONT PAGE PHOTO

Whatever the weather may do, the stripers are coming!

Photo by Mrs. Doreen Pugh.

garcia

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surf-guide discussing the problems of sportfishing and netting, Derry Bennet, Conservation Director of the American Littoral Society and Pete Barrett of the Hudson River Fishermen's Association, writer and lecturer on the fight against polluters and predatory power plants on the Hudson. The moderator was Rod Vandivert, Executive Director of the Striped Bass Fund and veteran environmentalist and lecturer.

ANNUAL HUDSON RIVER FISHER- MANS ASSOCIATION BANQUET

On March 30th, the Hudson River River Fishermen's Association will host its annual banquet at the Fort Comfort Inn, in Piermont, N.Y. overlooking the Hudson River.

On hand for the festivities will be Pete Seeger as main speaker representing the Hudson River Sloop Restoration and the sloop Clearwater. Bob Boyle author of the Hudson River will serve as moderator and will introduce the other guest speakers like Bob Pond of Strippers Unlimited, Al Reinfelder of the Striped Bass Fund and Bob Blanks of Schaefer's Saltwater Fishing Contest.

The cocktail hour begins at 7 PM with the added attraction of hot hors d'oeuvres. Dinner is served at 8 PM with tender roast beef, salads, pastries, and desserts.

After dinner, a host of door prizes will be raffled and the drawing for the grand prize - an all expense paid fishing trip for two to the idyllic Walkers Cay in the Bahamas compliments of Vince Carberry and the Precision Valve Corp.

A few seats are still available. Reservations cost \$13 for a single or \$25.00 per couple.

SEE YOU ON THE 30th!!!

STRIPER TOURNAMENT

Gary Caputi, Tournament Director reports prizes are coming in from Fenwick, Garcia, Diawa, Zebco and others - enough to make this year's Tournament the best ever.

The Tournament runs from April 13th to May 13th, the heart of the spring striper run, and with all that extra time, many good catches should be made. Registration costs \$3.00 for adults and \$1.00 for juniors and includes a special "Hudson River Striper Tournament" patch and the Guide Book.

Contact Hudson River Fishermen's Association, New Jersey Chapter, Box 67, Demarest, New Jersey 07627.

US ATTORNEY HITS THREE HUDSON RIVER FIRMS

Humble Oil, Seatrain and Langor Transport Co. have been charged with polluting the Hudson and fines, if convicted, could be as high as \$12,500. All counts are based on the 1899 Federal Refuse Act.

SAVE OUR BAYS SEEKS HELP

SOBA seeks new working members to help the fast growing environmental organization keep up with the many problems involving marine pollution.

Fund raising, publicity, and legal advisers are a few of the fields where help is needed.

Become involved with a south shore based group that meets twice a month in Massapequa.

Some of us do care about our Marine waters, why not fight to protect and preserve them, now.

Write to save our Bays Assn., 2348 Maple St., Seaford L.I. 11782 for information on joining a working organization. No dues.

LIRONICA OVALIS

It was interesting to read, in issue No. 8 (Feb. 8, 1973) an article by Don Vetter regarding, the parasite Lironica Ovalis. I was very distressed when I discovered almost every snapper blue had one of these creatures clinging to the gills of the host fish. - I wish to emphasize that I write of the years 1930, 1931, 1932 and on.

The fish I describe were caught in the Stamford Harbor about 200 yards from the hot water effluent of the Conn. Light & Power Co. at the junction of South and Atlantic Sts. However, I must qualify my remarks about hot water effluent in further stating that the harbor invariably froze over sufficiently to provide safe skating for the latter part of the winter. On the other hand I'm sure the output of power and effluent has increased considerably.

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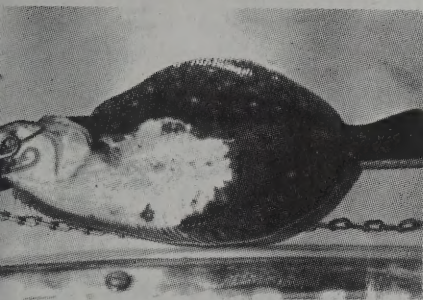
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AMBICOLORATION

Enclosed is a photo of a 1½ pound fluke caught in Merrick, bay. The underside of the fluke is shown. Its color most completely matches the other (back) side of the fluke. I have caught many fluke in my lifetime and I never saw a fluke like this one whose underside is almost completely dark.

Mike Heiberger
East Meadow, N.Y.



Ambicoloration, the presence of color on the blind side of flatfishes, is not rare, although it can hardly be classified as common. The causes for these freaks are not known although both genetic faults and early life injury have both been suggested. Usually the condition involves incomplete or improper rotation of the eye that moves from the blind side to the colored. Usually, although not in the fish in the photo, there is a hooked depression on the head just before the beginning of the dorsal fin showing where and/or how the eye had improperly rotated. Although this anomaly has been reported in scientific literature regarding the summer flounder many times, this is the best picture of the freak that I have ever seen.

Philip T. Briggs
Senior Aquatic Biologist (Marine)
New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation

FISHING CLINIC NOW IN SESSION

Mar. 7, Flounder & Fluke
Mar. 21, Trout
April 4, Striped Bass, Part No.1
April 18, Blackfish & Mackerel
May 2, Pickerel & Weakfish
June 6, Large & Small mouth Bass
June 20, Blues, Part No.1, from boats
July 5, Pan Fish & Carp

July 18, Striped Bass, Part No.2
Aug. 1, Bluefishing, Part No.2, surf
Aug. 15, Tuna & Alabacore
Sept. 19, Large & Small Mouth Bass,
Part No.2

The CLUB offers the Clinic to all interested fishermen as another community service at no charge. It takes place in Room No. 4 at the Co-op City Dreiser Loop Community Center and begins approx. at 8:00 P.M. Co-op City is located right off the New England Thruway, exit Bartow Ave.

At the last meeting of the Atlantic Anglers, of Massapequa, regular elections were held. The following were unanimously elected by the membership:

Brad Baker, President; Dr. Harold Jarow, Vice President; Jim Walters, Recording Secretary, and Don Clifton, Treasurer.

Elected to the Board of Governors were: Mario Turiana, Tony Salvo, Nick Pasquariello and Joe Racanelli.

DISTRICT 3, U.S. POWER SQUADRON

Wallace P. Gould of Bayside and Forest Hills was elected Commander of District 3, at its annual convention at the Holiday Inn in Hempstead, L.I. District 3 is a 7000 member unit of the United States Power Squadrons, comprising the counties of Kings, Queens, Nassau and Suffolk. Also elected were J. Lawrence Kess, Executive Officer; Robert J. Burgio, Administrative Officer; Barnett C. Emmerich, Secretary; and Mark J. Hroncich, Treasurer. District 3, United States Power Squadrons, offers a Boating Course free to all men, women and youngsters, age 15 and up. This course is especially designed to interest and benefit the new boatsman, the outboarder and trailer boatman. Information may be obtained by calling toll free 800-243-6000.

BOOK REVIEW

"FISHING WESTERN LONG ISLAND SOUND," is a truly comprehensive book on angling in this productive area, with information of value to tyro and pro alike.

The authors, Ted Keatly and Fred Luks are outdoor editors, and fishermen of wide repute; they know whereof they speak.

The book is published by the Vernon Plains Publishers of White Plains, and sells for \$1.95. It should be on your reading list.

Don Vetter

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SPRING STRIPERS IN THE SOUND

by RON ONORATO



ALTHOUGH CONDITIONS were far from perfect, we could not postpone the trip another day. Word was out that the first keeper size bass was caught the previous day from the western shore of Little Neck Bay. After a 4 month layoff, we were anxious to get in our first licks with some shore caught fish. Loading gear and equipment into the trunk, Mike Scarola and I took off on our first spring surfcasting trip. We parked the car in nearby Crocheron Park, and walked over the wooden bridge spanning the Cross-Island Parkway. The tide was nearly full and a stiff northerly wind was blowing as we proceeded toward the southern portion of the bay. We each set up two rods and baited one with a gob of worms, and the other with a chunk of squid. After casting the rods out, we spiked them and waited. I remarked that although the wind was fierce from the north, we might have a chance since the wind just started to blow and the water was still clear. With the tide nearly half out, three hours later, we had only a slightly energetic eel to show for our efforts. Some of the other surfcasters decide to pack it in as darkness rapidly approaches. Soon we were the only ones left and we agreed to call it a day. As Mike started to reel his worm baited rig to shore, something hit it. After a brief tussle, a bass of about 3 pounds was slid ashore in the darkness. And so began another season of surfcasting for bass.

For those of us who fish the north shore surf for bass, we can expect action about three to four weeks earlier than our south shore friends. The reason for this is simple; the Hudson River holds an enormous quantity of bass. As soon as the water warms a little, the fish start moving. The north shore of Long Island gets the first fish. Another important factor is the fact that many bass winter over in the bays and harbors on the north shore. A few warm days and these winter over fish are looking for food. Generally speaking, the first surf bass traditionally comes out of Little Neck Bay around the end of March (power plant bass excluded.) By around the second or third week of April, the Hudson River fish trickle down and move eastward in the Sound. Come the first week in May, the bass move into their usual haunts.

For some reason or the other, Little Neck Bay seems to produce the first shore caught bass. I rush the season a little and start fishing there about the end of March, although the best action occurs in the later half of April. Fortunately for the shore fisherman, the entire western shore of Little Neck Bay is within access. Your best bet is to park your car in Crocheron Park in Bayside, and walk over the parkway bridge to the bay. The entire stretch of shoreline is good bass water. The shallow, southern end of the bay by the railroad tracks is a good place to try. Up in the northern section, a small pocket of marsh grass

around Fort Totten is another nice spot. Each time you fish there, try a different area until you find one that produces.

Most of the fish caught are with worms of natural bait, although artificial lures will occasionally catch fish. The best all around outfit for bait fishing would be an 8-9 foot medium action spinning rod with matching reel, and 12 to 15 pound test monofilament. This type of rod will handle the 2 or 3 ounce sinkers necessary for casting and holding bottom. A much lighter outfit can be used for casting the artificials. A 6½ to 7 foot light-medium action rod with matching reel, and 8 to 10 pound mono will be good to use with the fairly small lures.

Worms, blood or sand, are the most widely used baits. Two or three nice plump worms threaded on a hook of about 2/0 in size is very effective. A three foot leader is connected to the hook and then attached to the eye of a three way swivel. On the other eye the sinker goes, and on the remaining one, the terminal end of the line is tied. A small cork float may be added to the leader if eels or crabs are in the water, as this will keep the bait off bottom. A strip of squid is another good bait to try when baitfishing. A couple of sand spikes are a must, unless you want to hold your rod.

Occasionally the bass desires something that moves, that is the time to use

artificial lures. Small Alou eels, small Tri-Fin Whiptails, and small bucktails are the most effective lures to use. Cast the lures out and let them settle to the bottom and then retrieve them very slowly, bouncing them off the bottom. The small eels are particularly effective around clumps of marsh grass, for this is natural habitat.

The best time to fish Little Neck Bay is in early morning or at dusk, and on an incoming tide. Any strong northerly or southerly wind will muddy the water, so avoid them. A mild wind of any direction doesn't affect the bay to any great degree. The best thing for you to do when fishing Little Neck Bay, is to bring one rod for bait fishing and one rod for casting. While the bait rod is in the spike, you can walk along the shore and cast; in this manner, your chance of catching a bass is increased.

While your in the vicinity of Fort Totten, don't forget to give the jetty a try. This seldomly fished set of rocks produces some nice sized bass in early April. Since the bottom is very rocky, it is advisable that you stick to artificial lures on an incoming tide.

Further east, there is a spot that produces some really nice fish throughout the month of April. Beginning in early April, West Harbor in Oyster Bay is the focal point of many surfcasters. To find West Harbor, you proceed East on Bayville Avenue until you can go no further. Long Island Sound is on the left or north side, while West Harbor is on the south. You can park your car anywhere on the avenue before Memorial Day.

West Harbor is basically fished with artificial lures. Any light to medium action spinning outfit will suffice in this in this stretch of water. You have a large array of lures to choose from. I favor the rebel minnow in the 4½" and 5½" sizes with blue backs in both the floating and sinking models. Also include in your plug bag a number of Alou eels in various weights and sizes. Finish out the weaponry with a selection of small bucktails, small Kastmasters and Hopkins.

You will need a good set of waders when fishing around West Harbor. As you enter the quiet, cove like waters, wade gently to the left covering the entire area with casts. The best time to fish this area is around dusk with an incoming tide, or the first hour of the ebb. Early mornings are also worth a try. If the wind kicks up from any direction, the water becomes roiled and fishing falls off.

Another good spot in Oyster Bay, is the deep channel that runs near the

Bayville Bridge. You park your car in town, and walk to the bridge. From there, you can fish the banks on either side of the bridge with artificials. The best time to fish this area is around the last of the incoming, and the first of the outgoing tide. If bait fishing is your bag, you can fish from atop the bridge itself with worms.

As the waters warm around the beginning of May, the fish in West Harbor move out into the Sound. The Hudson River fish also make their presence felt. You need only walk across the street from the street from West Harbor to find the newly arrived fish. This stretch of water is known as Centre Island Reef. You will need somewhat heavier lures and tackle when fishing in this rock strewn area. For the most part, schoolies of 3-7 pounds are taken, with an occasional larger fish.

The cement wall at the end of Bayville Beach, marks the beginning of private property. However, some of the best bass water is located here. By carefully wading in the water, you are usually able to fish this area. Larger Alou eels and larger Rebels can be used here for the larger size fish. The same lures used in West Harbor, can be used in this spot for the schoolies. Come the end of May, the town imposes strict parking regula-

tions that prevent parking on almost all town's streets. These rules are in effect until Labor Day.

The areas around Bayville and Little Neck Bay offer the most reliable north shore surfcasting for the early spring. With a little time and effort, you should be able to stick a few fish from the surf. After a long and dreary winter, these areas provide the action necessary to sharpen up for the season ahead of us. So don't wait until the end of May to go surfcasting, you may miss some of the best action.



Author casts a lure from Fort Totten Jetty - Throgs Neck looms in the background.

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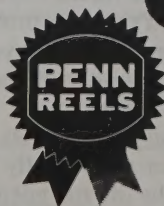
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SPRING COD, POLLOCK, WHITING & LING

by VLAD EVANOFF



MANY ANGLERS IN our area think of the cod, pollock, whiting and ling as "winter" fish and as soon as the weather starts to warm up most of these anglers wait for the "spring" or "summer" species to arrive. But before these fish show up in force you can still have some good fishing for the so-called winter species.

Such as cod, for example, which often bite well and still hang around in numbers fairly close to shore during March and April. It's true that the spring run of cod is not as dependable or as sustained as the late fall and winter run. But if you fish the right spots, and hit the right days you can make some good catches.

Along Long Island and New Jersey you may still catch cod at such spots as the Cholera Banks, Angler Banks, 17 Fathoms, the Farms, and such inshore grounds as Seabright and Scallop Ridge. The clam beds of Long Island and New York are also good spots to fish. And, of course, if you go out on any of the party boats which fish the offshore wrecks, your chances of catching big "bacala" are even better.

If you go out to Montauk you can often find good fishing for cod at such spots as Cartwright, Frisbie Grounds, Rocky Hill, Great Eastern Rock, and many other spots around Montauk Point.

Many of the Montauk party boats and some private boats also fish the water around Block Island and cod are often taken here at the Southwest Ledge, the Midway Grounds, the Hooter Grounds and Shark Ledge. Of course, if any of the

boats start making the run to Cox's Ledge you have one of the most dependable cod spots of all.

Spring cod can be caught on the same bottom rigs as winter cod. Which means one or two hooks rigged high enough above the sinker to clear each other. If the cod are running small you can use 6/0 or 7/0 hooks and 8/0 and 9/0 hooks for bigger fish. Usually sinkers from 8 to 16 ounces will handle the rig on most of the grounds. Skimmer clams are usually used for bait, but cod will take squid, herring, conch or whelk, and pieces of most fish.

Jigging can also be productive for cod in the spring. Here you can use diamond jig from 4 to 16 ounces in weight. The lighter jigs are best in shallow, inshore waters with light lines, while the heavier jigs work best in deeper waters and with thicker lines. Jigging is simple, hard work. You simply let the jig down to the bottom and when it hits, you reel in a couple of turns of the reel handle and start working the rod tip up and down.

Pollock can also be caught in the spring on many of the same grounds fished for cod. They'll also hit clams or squid or fish bait like cod, do, but for them you rig the hooks higher on the line. If you don't get any bites with the sinker resting on the bottom you can try reeling in a few turns of the reel handle and fish at that depth.

Pollock hit diamond jigs and other metal lures even more avidly than cod. You can jig right off the bottom as you do for cod, or you can let your jig down

until it hits bottom, then reel it in with plenty of rod action for about 20 or 30 feet. Then let it drop back down again and repeat.

Later on in April and May the pollock may show on top in many places and trolling with metal lures, feathers, surgical or plastic tube lures will take them. Or if you are fishing from a private boat you can try casting plugs, metal squids, heavy spoons or jigs at the surfacing fish.

When fishing in waters where cod and pollock are being caught at the same time it's a good idea to use a "high-low" rig if fishing with bait. Here the first hook on an 18 inch snell is tied about the same length above the sinker. Then a second hook on a 3 or 4 foot snell is tied about 5 or 6 feet above the sinker. The bottom hook can be baited with clams to interest cod, while the higher hook can be baited with squid for pollock.

Another fish which often runs well during the spring months is the silver hake better known as the "whiting" in our waters. While the water is still cold inshore and offshore these fish will remain in many spots and can be caught from boats, jetties and piers. Here again however, the spring run is not as dependable or consistent as the late fall or early winter run. Nor do the fish seem to come in as close to shore as they do in November and December. You'll be able to catch some whiting from the pier and jetties at Coney Island and Long Branch, N.J. at times, but your chances are better if you go offshore and fish

the deeper spots.

During the next two months you can look for whiting at such spots as the Ambrose and Scotland Grounds, 17 Fathoms, the Klondike, the Farms and along the edge of the Mud Hole. Most of these grounds are fished by party boats sailing from Sheepshead Bay, and New Jersey ports. The whiting bite best inshore at night, but in the deeper offshore waters they can be caught even in the daytime. Most of these party boats sail during the day, but a few make trips at night also. You also get more of the bigger "jumbo" whiting up to 3 or 4 pounds in the deeper offshore waters.

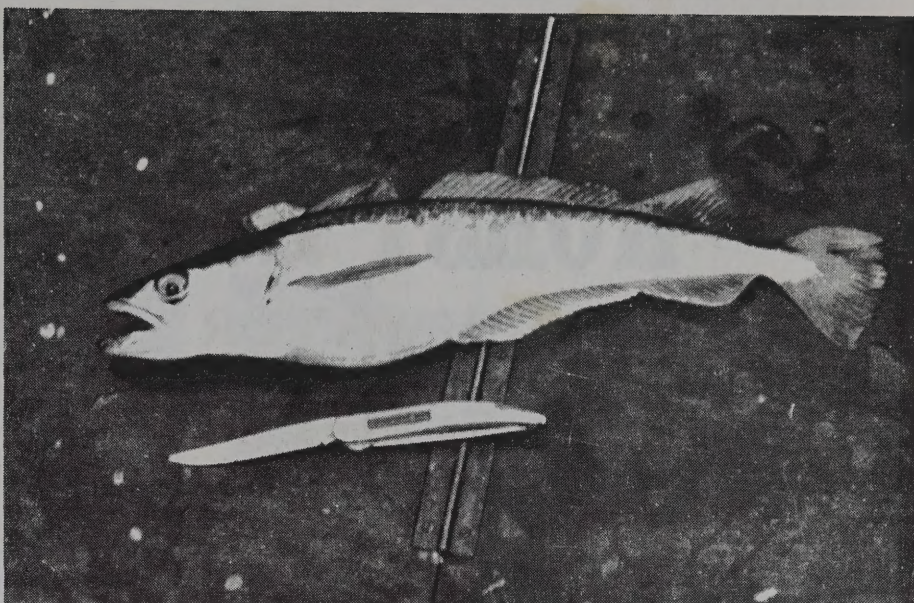
The best days for whiting fishing occur when the tide and wind are just strong enough to make the boat drift along steadily but not too fast. Then you can sue a two hook rig which has one 4/0 or 5/0 hook tied about a foot above the sinker and the second one tied about two feet above the first. Small baitfish such as spearing, sand eels or herring make good bait for whiting. But they will also take strips of herring or other fish, and also squid and clams. Or you can cut strips from the first whiting you catch and use these for bait.

If action with whiting is slow, try working your rod tip up and down to give the bait some movement. Whiting are pretty active fish, and are attracted by a moving bait much faster than one that is just hanging still or lying on the bottom. In fact, you can often use the smaller jigs and metal lures to catch whiting at times by jigging for them as you do for cod or pollock.

While fishing for whiting you will often catch ling on the same grounds. But this fish is less active than the whiting and is more inclined to take a bait that isn't moving or one that is lying still on the bottom. For them you can fish from an anchored boat over a muddy bottom. A boat that barely drifts is better for ling than one which moves too fast.

You can use the same rig for ling as for whiting, except that the lower hook should be tied just above the sinker. The upper hook also can be lowered a few inches or you can leave it where it is to catch mostly whiting. Ling will also take most of the same baits used for whiting with a preference for clams.

Actually, the fish we call the "ling" in our waters is really the red hake or squirrel hake. This is the one usually caught and which comes closer inshore than the white hake. The red hake or ling is also smaller and grows only up to about 7 or 8 pounds. The larger white hake caught at times in deeper offshore waters, grows up to 40 pounds or more.



When fishing from boats offshore in deeper water you'll often catch bigger whiting than from shore or piers.

Off New Jersey the Cedars near Sandy Hook is a good inshore spot for ling. Farther offshore the Scotland Grounds and the Mud Hole are fished by party boats and private boats. You can also catch them from the piers and jetties at Coney Island and Long Branch, N.J. later in April and early May.

All of the fish mentioned above make good eating with the cod and whiting especially favored. But don't look down your nose on pollock or ling. When properly prepared they also make a delicious meal. And with the high price of meat these days you are getting a good source of protein at low cost.

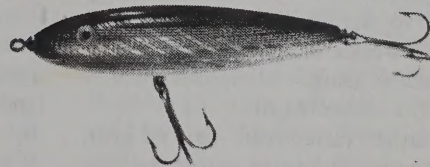
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FIRST WEEK WORST WEEK?

FRESHWATER FEATURE

by **DON VETTER**

WHOEVER CHANGED opening day of the trout season from the second Saturday in April to the first day of the month (April fool's day) must have had a sardonic sense of humor, for there are times when the new season seems to conspire to make fools of us all. The enthusiasm engendered by the end of a long, cold winter, and the chance to wet a line once more, can work to our disadvantage if not held in check somewhat. The ability to relax and enjoy the spring air is something we should all try to cultivate; fishing should be a relaxation, rather than a do or die thing. Who am I trying to kid? - I am as overeager as anyone, maybe more so, and can't help but wonder how those few sharpshooters can keep their cool on that day of days.

The fly rodder is at an additional disadvantage, as he may find his timing off considerably after the long winter's layoff. Unless the waters are unusually warm (which they rarely are), this is a poor time to be fishing flies anyhow, with the possible exception of a deep-fished nymph. Given these factors, I try to stick to the spin rod for the first couple of weeks, and work into the fly rod gradually, using flies exclusively only towards the end of April.

Weather varies from year to year, but it is generally pretty rotten the first week; last year may have been the exception that proves the rule. It is usually quite cold, and there is often rain in the offing. The water is high and cold, and the trout are often found near the bottom, with but little inclination to exert themselves much in chasing lures or flies, particularly the older, larger fish. Dressing warmly, and fishing deep are the cardinal rules for the average opening day.

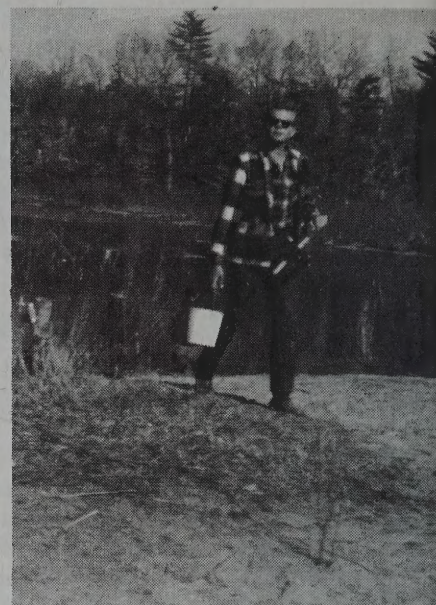
One thing that little can be done about is the unbelievable crowds who flock to the waters at this time of year. Fishermen who disappear into the woodwork for the rest of the season, are out in force that first week. Bubble falls

pool, on the Connetquot River is one of my favorite haunts much of the year; but it is often literally unapproachable in the early season. Opening day can find the little pool so choked with wading anglers, that it is difficult to see the water, while others ring the shoreline like party goers around a bowl of cheese-dip; the tangles and foul-ups must be fantastic. The fact that trout are sometimes caught under such conditions is a conundrum to me. I can only conclude they commit suicide by taking a baited hook, and thereby avoid the more ignominious fate of being trampled to death.

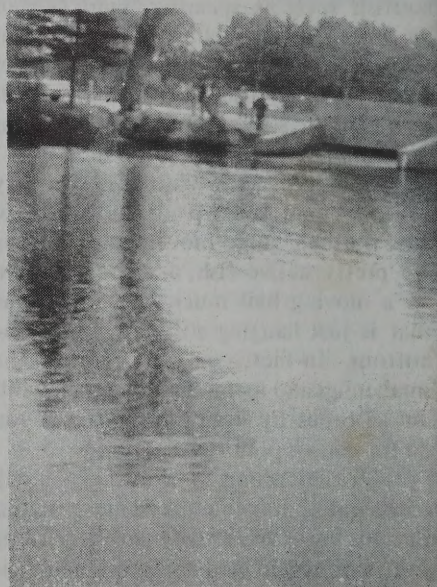
Overeagerness, weather conditions, and crowds are the three biggest problems that face the early season angler. . . what to do? Stay home, and wait for the crowds to thin, and the weather to grow warmer, later on? Not likely; the winter has been much too long, and the trout season is all too short to entertain such a notion. There are ways of dealing with each of these problems, and no need to miss out, that first week on the water.

The enthusiasm will gradually fade to manageable proportions, so this need not concern us overmuch. Cold water and lethargic trout must be dealt with by gearing our methods accordingly. If lures or flies are employed, they must be worked slow and deep. Perhaps a better solution in early spring, is the use of live or natural bait, deep down where the trout lurk. A nightcrawler or live shiner (roach), or even a saltwater killie can turn the trick. Though I don't go in for such baits as salmon eggs, cheese or liver, these too have their partisans, and produce at times.

The crowded conditions at our favored spots must be either lived with or avoided. If you can fish amidst the mob without losing your sense of humor, go to it; otherwise let those well known spots go till later on in the season and try some out of the way area. Many of



Author on the banks of the Nissequoque. Yes, there's live bait in that bucket.



Why can't bubble falls pool be this uncrowded on opening day?

the Island's trout ponds will not receive a stocking prior to opening day (see last week's stocking list), and will have little appeal for those in search of easy to catch hatchery fish. These ponds might just produce some nice holdover trout, for those with the patience to work them thoroughly. On almost any water, there are hard to reach spots which the crowd will avoid, and these too may be worth a try.

All things considered, the first week of the trout season can be, if not the best week, at least far from the worst. Have patience, forbearance, and fortitude, and you may be surprised at the results. Good luck and tight lines.

AN ORDINARY FLOUNDER DAY IN RHODEY

by DON MILLUS



Flounder fishing for the young.



- and old.

THE TWO MOST admired qualities of the winter flounder or "flat" are his taste when he is served up at dinner and his willingness to take a baited hook eagerly. To this short list I would add one more distinction: most years the first fish caught by the majority of salt water anglers is a flounder.

Down my way in Connecticut, along the New Haven and Milford shoreline, the flounder had only made the most tentative showing. But Lou Almeida, the new young proprietor of "Top of the Dock" tackle shop in Narragansett, had taken the trouble to call me and report that the flats were in Narrow River and taking baits regularly. The previous weekend had seen fishermen shoulder to shoulder at Middlebridge, and the fish even thicker underneath the bridge. It would be worth a week-day trip, just to say hello, but my wife's recent remarks about the price of meat and fish made me feel even less guilty about skipping work that day.

The drive east on the Connecticut turnpike is fairly pleasant, what with the bridges over the Thames and the Connecticut Rivers and some pretty country in between. For the Rhode Island Shore I always take the exit for North Stonington and go through Westerly to Route 1 for the even more scenic ride past Charlestown Beach to the exit for Point Judith and Narragansett. My mind wandered to thoughts of trips to Coxes Ledge for cod and fishing live eels for stripers or plugging for blues. But all that would have to wait. I drove down South Pier Road to "Top of the Dock" on Ocean Road, Narragansett, to pick up some

clam worms. After some good coffee and an hour and a half of talking about what we'd catch this year, Lou and I finally agreed that he should get busy with the repairs and renovations he wanted to make on the shop, while I would drive over to Middlebridge. (Take the first left after crossing Narrow River on Ocean Road, and the next left is Middlebridge Rd.)

It was 11 AM by the time I pulled into Bob Eddy's parking area adjacent to the bridge, and he assured me that the flounder were biting. Some twenty anglers were spaced along the bridge and rocks and an occasional flat was being lifted up. Most of the anglers were using fresh water spinning outfits, and all were using sandworms or clamworms.

When I got out on the bridge I found that my first mistake had been to shoot the breeze with Lou for an hour and a half. Most of the anglers who had caught the first half of the outgoing tide, had a dozen or more fish in the three-quarter pound or better class. The fishing had slacked off, and the wind was blowing more chilly than earlier. I baited up, cast, and waited. After fifteen minutes of wondering what I wasn't doing right I pulled in a flounder of about a half pound. Not a great start to a season, but I have done worse.

The fish hit sporadically for the next two and a half hours. For every fish over three-quarters of a pound, there were two midgets to be thrown back. An occasional tom cod was pulled in too. Despite the wind, you could hear the birds chirping in the nearby woods. Even if the fish weren't snowshoes it was a

good feeling to know that spring was here. With the very early arrival of the herring or "buckies" in Rhode Island and the report of a thirty-four pound striper caught in the surf at Watch Hill early in March, and one has a good case for the fishing season being well ahead of schedule this year.

The best I could do was a one pound, six ounce flat, that my wife promised to stuff and bake for me. (How do you, and where do you stuff a flounder, you ask? Just slice a "flap" on his dark side in both directions away from his midline, as if filleting. Shrimp, onions and ritz crackers go just great as stuffing, or use scallops if you really feel like celebrating.)

I solemnly swear that I saw one flat that was well over two pounds caught from shore. Last April (1972) there were even more of the big ones, so I'm still hopeful for this year. Because of the mild winter, the fish appear to be fairly hefty still.

By early afternoon it had begun to rain and I had promised Captain Ernie Schiller of the "Mijoy" that I would stop in and see the plans for his new boat the "Mijoy 747" now being built down in Louisiana. I had ten flounder in the pail, and if it wasn't the greatest catch of flats ever, it had to be my best of the year . . . so far. The signs of an earlier than usual warming of the water make me think that I'll be back in Rhode Island for stripers sooner than I had expected. Despite the rain, the ride to Niantic and home was quite pleasant. Flounder can get you started thinking of bigger game.



THE NATURE OF POWER

BY AL REINFELDER



"Power corrupts; absolute power corrupts absolutely."

IN EXAMINING THE controversy surrounding the proposed bridge across Long Island Sound, many root issues facing all men in an age of impending ecological and societal disasters are revealed. This article is an effort to examine one of these issues: power. No, this is not a study of the energy crisis, but rather a few thoughts on something perhaps more basic, something behind both the energy crisis, the bridge problem, and the environmental dilemma generally.

1. Power is Basic to Man's Nature

Man is moved and motivated by power. He needed it to survive a million years of evolutionary development; he needs it now to live. Power is life's driving force: the machine-energy of his biological self. Checked and shaped by human values, power feeds man's body and nourishes his soul. Run rampant, it is crushingly destructive.

Man has become the dominant species of planet Earth because he is bold and strong. The strength of his arms, the skill of his hands, and the subtleness of his mind are each powers which contribute to his dominance.

No wringing of hands at the abuse of his power can change this aspect of man's nature. Be aware, then, that at the root of all thrusts which drive men to build great structures, conduct violent wars, and fight valiantly for what they believe, lie primeval forces which are not to be taken lightly.

Why power fails to produce good; and how power might better be used; are the only valid questions here. That man is driven by power cannot be ignored.

ed. Wisdom guides power - it cannot deny it.

2. Wisdom

The control of power for man's good is wisdom. But the growth of power outruns the cultivation of wisdom. This is the curse of man - particularly western man whose culture has overpowered most of the world without replacing the destroyed ways of life with equally satisfying life-styles.

Without wisdom power runs amuck. Like the flailings of a wild and untutored giant the ability to change life has outstripped the patient intelligence of those who would counsel a saner course. We must counter this trend to assure not only a better way of life, but survival itself. The crazed giant can wreck his own home.

Against the indiscriminate use of power we must oppose wisdom. But wisdom is hard won and we must obtain time to cultivate it. We require a moratorium on the wanton exercise of human power. Every delay is a gain. Fight for time - and use it well.

What constitutes wisdom is for all men to decide. It is the most basic of life's problems. But it has not been our fortune to have been raised in a culture which seeks the solution. We are thus ill prepared to be wise. Yet we must begin somewhere. Why not start by asking: In what kind of world would I wish to dwell? What would the environment be like? What honorable and satisfying work would I choose? What pleasure and challenges would I seek? What values would I wish for myself, my children, and for future generations?

Learning, with others, how to approach these ideals is how wisdom can be obtained.

That today's society fails most men's ideals is a shocking indication of how far we are from the false images so glibly projected by official sources. That we can hardly conceive of ourselves playing a role in the future design of our own culture, however, is an even greater sign of failure.

Cultivate private ideals and then share this vision with others is a renaissance of man's rightful place as a wise and creative figure.

3. The Many Faces of Power

Unmitigated power is a strong and devious enemy because it is not always recognizable in its various guises. In modern society power takes many forms - both direct and abstract. Whereas the most important example of power once lay in a neanderthal's club-wielding arm, power now finds its most poignant expression in a roll of green-back bills. Whether as real estate, business, government influence, or hard cash, the dollar does the talking.

Any organization of those who possess power, also becomes a power. Thus banks, commercial groups (like the Long Island Association), labor unions, business lobbies, and the government itself become real manifestations of power. Being, for the most part, without wise counsel they are all potentially quite dangerous. All the more so because organizations concentrate and magnify power. Banks gain power, for instance, from the piddling deposits of thousands of powerless depositors who

have no voice in, or knowledge of, the uses of this power.

But aside from these abstract forms of power, we must recognize the following direct manifestations of primitive power: **SPEED, BIGNESS, GROWTH, STRENGTH, CONTROL and INFLUENCE.**

A thousand disguises conceal power from the unsuspecting. Recognition must precede control.

4. Power is acquisitive, self-perpetuating and blind.

Power knows no limits. Those who have it crave more. It intoxicates. The man with a dollar wants two. The governor wants to be president. The president aspires to god-like powers. It is the nature of things.

Power provides the means of more power, thus aggravating its acquisitive nature. The rich get richer, because they can afford to spend part of their wealth to earn more. The governor can become president more easily than you, because he knows more powerful people and is thus more powerful himself. This, also, is the nature of things.

But above all, power is blind. It cares not for what it consumes. Without the guiding hand of wisdom, power is a dangerous, self-motivated, self-justifying, thrashing about among life's valued treasures. Power need have no goal or guide but its own growth. And this is where its dangers lie.

Without wisdom power will destroy even those other values held by the wielders of that power - as when road builders bury their own back yards, or oilmen pollute their own beaches. Although both the business members of the Long Island Association and the labor members of the construction and trucking unions both stand to increase their bank rolls as a direct result of the proposed bridge, these men will continue to live on Long Island and will thus be subjected, like the rest of us, to the increased noise, crowding, pollution and traffic stimulated by the very bridge which brings them more business. Their increased wealth (power) is paid for by diminished values in their very own lives.

The acquisitiveness of power makes men strive for more; the self-perpetuating nature of power gives them the means to get more; the blindness of power allows them to trample on the very things which make life worth living as they achieve their unilluminated goal.

Because power has been allowed to exist and grow without the mitigating influence of human values, there is no end to the power-increasing schemes

with which we are beset. Highways as wide as entire farms blanket our uplands; power plants multiply to consume resources; houses and factories crowd the hills; uses for water multiply as wells go dry; and phoney sewer treatment plants send abused springs to the putrid bays and away from the thirsty tables of water below.

And now a bridge, to multiply and magnify the problems of which we already have an over-abundance. Such is the thirst for power, untempered by wisdom.

Complementing and complicating the above listed characteristics of power is the worship of power for its own sake. Bigger planes (SST), larger power plants (Indian Point and Shoreham), faster roads (L.I. Expressway), more airports (Offshore Artificial Islands), more fuel (Offshore Wells and Alaskan Pipeline), improved rocketry (moonings), better bombs (A and H), more of them (Arms Race), and longer bridges (Rye Oyster Bay and Orient Point - Rhode Island), are all ideas met with strong approval in most quarters as a consequence of the Western habit of applauding anything which is the grossest of its type - including the grossest thing of all: the Gross National Product.

The reason for this is that power has led to good in the past (whenever it was guided by wisdom). Thus a mistaken identification of "power" with "good" developed. This confusion has made it difficult for people to see that they are separate and, quite often, opposite.

Civilization has disguised much brute force as civic virtue. Thus, the men who plunder resources and sell all dreams for profit are - each and every one - held in highest esteem, praised in school rooms, churches, and congressional halls. All because their acts represent power. And that power is worshiped.

Power-worship is deeply ingrained in our national character and has become a part of "common sense." Even words which represent aspects of power automatically take on positive connotations in the minds of the unthinking. Such words include: "Economic Advance," "Progress," "Development," "Growth," and "Higher Standard of Living." The use of these terms to denote positive aspects of life is strictly mythological.

The mindless worship of power is one of the forces supporting the bridge. This is hard to combat, but not unsurmountable. First, such unwarranted worship must be identified. Make it



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clear to yourself, and then to others, that power, growth, expansion, development, or whatever else is called for, is not in itself good at all. To know if such things are good you must ask yourself if they contribute to, or detract from, those things which you truly value. Does the ease of driving from Long Island to Connecticut compensate for the fact that both areas are becoming less desirable places to travel to? If not, worship of speed (a form of power) diminishes!

Ask to what end the "more," "faster," "bigger," etc. are to be put, and then weigh these ends. Power is but a means, and is not a fit subject of worship.

6. Power is Not Equally Divided.

If everyone had equal power to influence the flow of society's energies a full and complete discussion of all major projects such as this bridge would have to be held, followed by a simple vote. Such is not the case. Someday, perhaps, such democratic equality will be approximated, but for the time being we are faced with extreme inequality of power. If this is doubted, just remember that money is power. While some men toil for the minimum wage, others manipulate funds into great fortunes. All men are not equal, to be sure. But all men should have a voice in how their planet is to be used. Such important decisions for life tomorrow, as well as for today, should not be made on the basis of one dollar - one vote, but for the most part, this is exactly how it is done.

At least business is clearly recognized as having little motivation other than profit (increased power). So we are not so easily fooled by their claims of fostering the common good ("What's good for General Motors is good for America" - type of thinking). But labor is another matter. All men recognize the need for work. The deceitful part played by organized labor is that in its clamorous cry for work the union chiefs fail to allow the laboring men to participate in the decision as to what that work shall be. Would a construction worker rather work on a road or bridge which will destroy the beauty of the very land he lives on, or would he rather build a great recycling plant which could terminate solid waste disposal problems and re-use valuable resources? The fact is that he is never even asked. It is as if the only jobs a Long Island working man can do is build fighter planes, super highways or bridges. This is a patent untruth.

Such inequality can be fought, to some degree, with the limited de-

mocratic means available. But such battles require skill, knowledge, and determination - none of which are encouraged by those that hold the real power. By keeping the public out of the picture until the ground work has been done, one is not even given the chance to comment on a new project until it is practically finished. Note the years and dollars (your tax money) which were spent by Governor Rockefeller in the "environmental study" which proclaimed the wonders of the Rye-Oyster Bay Bridge even before you so much as got a chance to comment on the bridge. Note, also, that Shoreham has been under construction - even to the point of near completion - while a hearing board was deciding on whether or not this facility would even be granted a license to operate. So sure were the LILCO people that they would "win"; so sure was the government that the license would eventually be granted, that Shoreham construction was never slowed. If the hearings on this and other projects were truly objective and democratic, no rational company would spend millions on something which might be declared illegal after it was completed. Obviously LILCO never had the slightest doubt about the outcome of the hearings.

Until power is distributed among all who share in the burdens and blessings of this earth, a constant struggle must be waged between those who have an abundance, and those who have a deficit. This struggle is a waste of man's creative energies.

7. The difficulty of opposing power.

Those who oppose the bridge are moved by values other than economic, and this puts them at an awful disadvantage. You can't count and measure open space, or place serenity on an accountant's ledger. The alewives slipping quietly past Bayville up toward Beaver Lake are not commensurate with the gold coins stacked conspicuously on the board room table. And the separate souls who are enriched by the spectacular

quietude of a sweep of rocky shore are no match for the united industrial leaders whose pockets stand to gain by speculation on a monstrous cleavage of that self-same shore.

The burdens of all quiet, sensitive, independent individuals who like things like forests, fields and uncluttered Sounds, is that they are forced to band together and act just like politico-economic power groups. The irony strangles the will of both the gentle and the wild-in-spirit.

Let us recognize, however, that if no power is mustered on the side of a creative, natural and adventurous mode of life, we will lose the battle of this bridge, as we will lose the battle of the nukes, the oil well fight, the refinery conflict and others not yet named, but imminent.

Wherefrom the power we need? From truth - for one; from boldness and action - for another; from unity with others - under the guidance of shared human values; and finally, and most difficultly, from the knowledge that ignorance and short-sightedness, and not evil, are the enemy. We must strip power from the blind builders by opening their eyes to a wider view - and, in so doing, add power to those who can see a tomorrow beyond their three score and ten; open glens beyond their rustic suburban barricades; and a life for man beyond nine-to-five redundancy.

So, gentle protestors, mild teachers, and shy fishermen, gird for battle on the only field open to those who oppose established power: political and legal confrontations. Only in numbers of bold and uncompromising citizens can power be mounted to defeat the powers that now sit as the master planners of Long Island, and of the continent.

Our power, however, must be shaped by wisdom. Only in this way can we build the kind of bridge to tomorrow which will lead to a better land.



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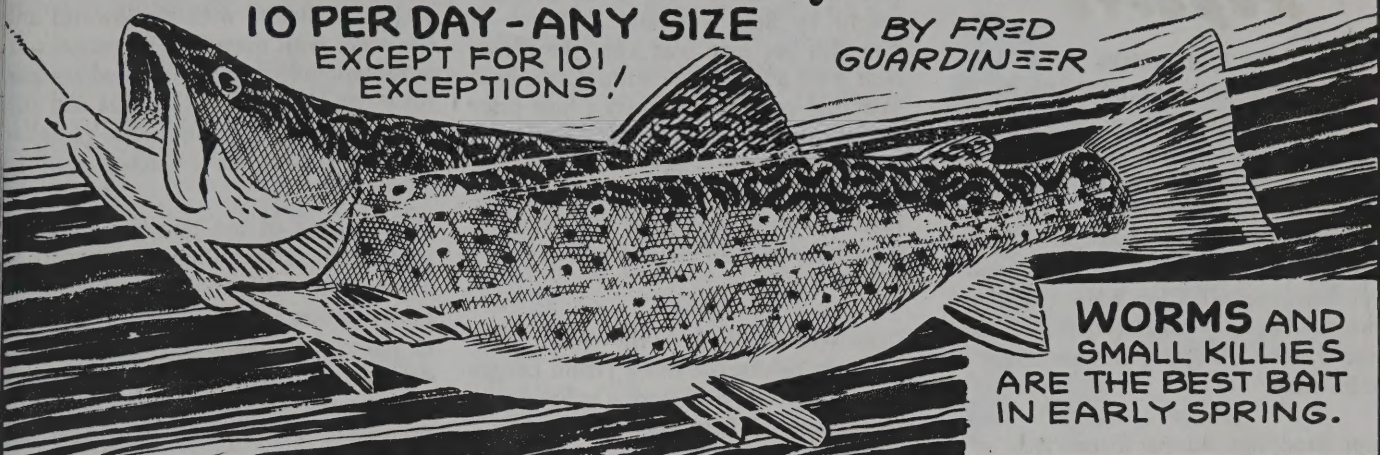
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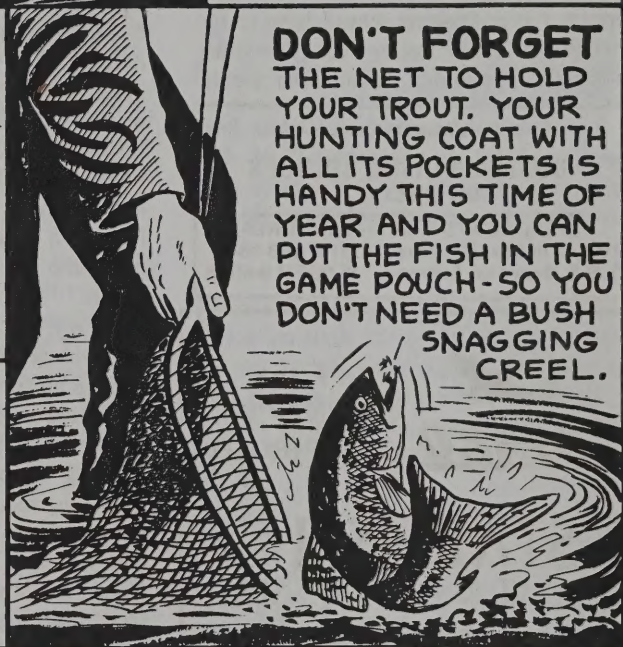
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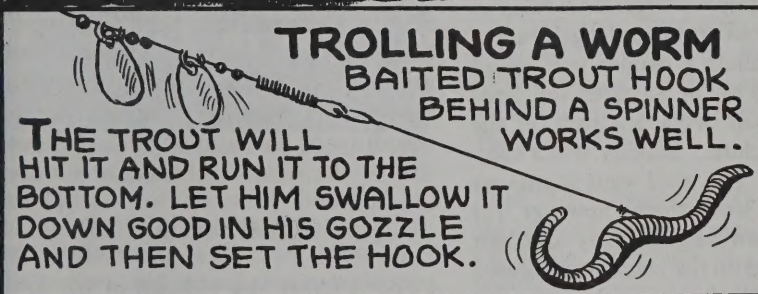
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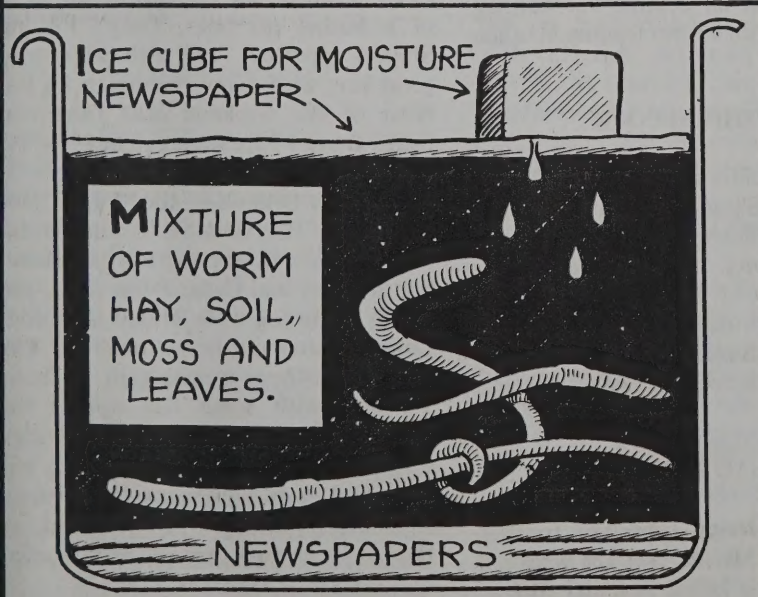


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ALL ITS POCKETS IS
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YEAR AND YOU CAN
PUT THE FISH IN THE
GAME POUCH - SO YOU
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CREEL.**



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BOTTOM. LET HIM SWALLOW IT
DOWN GOOD IN HIS GOZZLE
AND THEN SET THE HOOK.**



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OF WORM
HAY, SOIL,
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South Shore Reports

DICK MERMON

Capt. Paul Forsberg of the "Viking Star" reports the fishing was on the slow side in local waters on Saturday (due to the storm), so on Sunday, Capt. Paul sailed to one of his offshore wrecks. There he totaled 80 fish on board, with most of them 30 lbs. and up. The largest codfish was caught by Joe Walters of New Jersey. His cow cod weighed 61 lbs. Fred Thome of Valley Stream caught a 40 lb. hake.

Capt. Brad Glas, skipper of the "Hel-Cat" reports the codfishing would have to be considered above average for this time of year. The Block Island area seems

to be best right now, with the fish averaging 3 to 5 lbs. The largest fish over the weekend was a 22 pounder caught by Stan Topolovec. Three to four fish per man was what the fishermen were going home with. Capt. Brad said that considering today's high price for meat and fresh fish, it would be a good idea if the skippers looked to get their fares several table sized fish, rather than shooting for those big monster sizes that most of the fares only get to look at . . .

Capt. Richard Rade of the "Marlin III" has been fishing the Block Island Ledges for average 4 to 5 lb. cod. On Saturday, there were 50 fish aboard and on Sunday there were 70 cod and 3 snowshoe flounder aboard. The waters were a bit murky from the storm. Capt. Rade expects the fishing to improve when the waters settle down and clear . . .

Fishing off Block Island on Saturday, Capt. Paul Sundberg of the "Montauk" and his mate did a fine job on the cod. Having a cancelation, they decided to do some fishing and scouting for the future. The cod responded very well and they had fish from 8 to 25 lbs. The fish were feeding on large sand eels and shrimp up to two inches in length. Capt. Sundberg predicts a banner year ahead for fishing. Fish of all sizes and large patches of bait were graphed on the recording machine. Sunday was a complete change. The wind went southwest and the fish were there, however, for some unknown reason, they did not feed. Markings on the machine indicated fish all over at all depths, but nothing would entice them into feeding in quantity.

Ed Parbst of Centereach and Al Zadawa of Ridge, N.Y., took 50 flounder at Smith's Cove. They fished two hooks each, one baited with bloodworm and the other with mussel. The mussel out-produced the worms by a good margin. All boats out of Noyac Marina had fish on Sunday. A few only had to go as far as Mill Creek to make catches of up to 30 flounder.

Dan McLane of the Bayview Tackle & Bait reported that the season is off to a fine start, with an excellent weekend both weather and fish-wise. Peter Rielly of Valley Stream and son took 60 flounder (all big fish) at Buoy 11, right outside the Harbor. Mussels and clams are producing better than worms at the moment, and chumming is a must.

PROMISED LAND

Mild weather brought out both the flounders and the fishermen on both Saturday and Sunday. So stated Art Brand of the Promised Land Fishing Station. The average catch per boat was about 3 dozen flounders, from 1 to 2 pounds. These are small fish but they will be getting bigger as the season progresses. Old timers in the area say that flounders of 5 to 7 pounds have been taken years back, and 4 pounders are common. Art also said that Sunday's catch was a little slower than Saturday, possibly due to the drop in the atmospheric pressure, due to the weather change on Sunday.

HAMPTON BAYS

Good weather saw catches of up to ¾ of a bushel per boat, Tony's Fishing Station reported. All fish were very good size, with many fish up to 1¼ lbs. Most of the weekend skiff fishermen fished Buoy 17 for their catches.

Capt. Clark Bellows of the "Capt. Clark I" reports the flounder fishing is excellent. He's fishing the Shelter Island, South Ferry and Cedar Point areas, and all are producing well. Mussel baits continue to outcatch the worm baits. The average flattie is weighing in at about 1½ lbs., with some fish tipping the scales at better than 2½ lbs. Friday was a real bonanza! It seemed it was unlimited as to how many fish an individual could catch. The weekend, although better than average, was dwarfed by Friday's tremendous action.

MORICHES BAY

Fishing was not too good Saturday in general, although the open boat "Alma"

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SHINNECOCK

Capt. Clark Bellows, Jr. sailed his "Capt. Clark II" to Shinnecock Bay where he said the flounder were hitting very well on mussel baits. The flounder were averaging 1 to 1 lbs. The action was excellent on Friday and fair to good on Saturday and Sunday. Capt. Clark said, "it certainly looks like we're off to a good season."

SAG HARBOR

Several New Jersey fishermen traveled to the Noyac Marina over the weekend to sample Long Island flounder fishing. John Melcher, Ben Lafer and John Tenzo, all of the Garden State, had 40 fish in the 1 to 1½ lb. range with a few up to 1¼ lbs. All were taken on worms.

lid well in Ford's River, reported B & B Tackle. Sunday was much improved, with the Quogue Canal producing good catches on bloodworms and dyed clams.

Nancy of Skidmore's Fishing Station reported catches of 60 to 100 fish per boat over the weekend. Bloodworms for bait and plenty of mussels for chum did the trick. Nancy said the flounder were in the 1 to 1½ lb. range, with the bulk of the fishing taking place at Sea-tuck Cove and at Hart's Cove off the Coast Guard Station.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Small boats are warned to stay clear of Moriches Inlet at all times. Two fishermen were lost over the weekend when they ventured into the inlet in their small skiff.



Opening day at Skidmore's Fishing Station. Left to right, William Terlik, his dad Edward (of Maspeth), Bob Francis (of Forest Hills) and Steve O'Loughlin (of Centereach) with 250 flounders. The anglers used mussel chum and worm baits at Buoy 43.

MASTIC BEACH

Capt. Andy's Fishing Station reported beautiful sized flounders, 1 to 1½ lbs. have been the regular fare for his skiff fishermen. Catches of up to a bushel basket of flounder per boat were common, depending upon the number of fishermen. Worms and mussel chum were the key.

WEST SAYVILLE

Vito of the South Bay Fishing Station said the flounder fishing in the area can only be described as "tremendous." Dennis Caggiano, John Portony and George of Woodside had 210 flounders, fishing the West Sayville and Heckscher Park waters.

CAPTREE

Capt. Rod Westerlind of the "Capt. Rod"

fished the waters from Islip to Sayville and reported the fishing was excellent on Saturday and on Sunday, although it started off slow, it wound up o.k. Saturday's average was 25 fish per man and Sunday's fishermen had varied catches of 18 to 30 fish each. The flatties are averaging 1 lb. and they are going up to 2¼lbs. Capt. Rod said his fares were saying that with the prices of meat and fish skyrocketing, a day's fishing is not only pleasurable, but a bargain to boot. Capt. Frank Swanson of the "Sanco II" said Saturday's fishing was fair to good, and on Sunday the catches wound up good, however, the fares had to work for them. The action didn't really start until after the change of the tide. The Captain couldn't pin down any one particular hotspot, but said the entire Great South Bay is productive. He's been fishing anywhere from Bay Shore to Patchogue. The average flattie weighs in from ¾ to 1 lb., with the pool fish going 1¾ to 2 lbs. The main bait is worms.

Capt. Ben Litwin, sailing the boat with the same name off Cherry Grove, Oakdale and Heckscher Park said, "the fishing is excellent, averaging 25 to 40 fish per man, depending on which day you went out." The fish off Cherry Grove seemed to be larger but not as plentiful as the fish off Oakdale and Heckscher Park.

Capt. Carl Bauer of the "Capt. Whitaker" said they had nice weekend fishing to go along with the nice weekend weather. Saturday's average was 25 fish per man. Sunday was a bit slower with 15 fish per man the average. Worms and clam baits are working best. The flatties are averaging 1 to 1 pounds. Capt. Bauer said the waters off Sayville seem to be most productive.

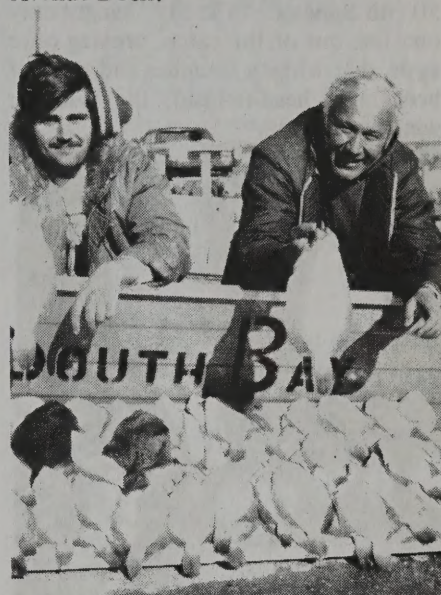
BABYLON

Walter Schmidt of the Babylon Fishing Station reported very good flounder fishing just northeast of the Captree Bridge, and also between the pool and Buoy 7. The clam beds off Heckscher Park are also producing well.

LINDENHURST

John Schaefer of Charlie's Bait & Tackle tells us there are plenty of flounder all over the area, particularly around Heckscher Park. Fish in the 1 to 1 pound class are being taken, and both Saturday and Sunday were excellent. Young Steve Harbacker caught four flounder

in the 1 lb. class right off the Wellwood Avenue Dock.



Fred and Otto Bezler of Maspeth, N.Y. with 96 flounders up to 1½ lbs. They were taken off Buoy 30 in front of West Sayville with bloodworms and shiners.

SEAFORD

Jimmy Rivera and Don Podsiadlo of Brooklyn took their girlfriends out fishing on a skiff from Dell's Fishing Station on Saturday and returned with 24 nice keepers. Dell's reported that most of his boats are fishing the Merrick side of the small bridge in Goose Creek. Fred O'Casey took his sons out both Saturday and Sunday and returned with better than 40 good fish both days.

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Four friends from Manhattan, Bob, Mike, Kenny and "The Fly" caught 50 fish Sunday. "The Fly" caught only one fish out of the catch, proving once again that when a flounder and a can of beer meet head-to-head, the flounder wins hands down.



30 flounder, caught in the State Channel, Great South Bay on March 20th, on bloodworms, by Joseph Matchekosky and son Peter.

WANTAGH

Frank Hecker of Causeway Bait & Tackle reported good flounder fishing. The flatties are taking worms, clams and mussels. John Walter of Bellmore caught 80 flounders on Sunday. Trawlers working off Jones Beach are beginning to pick up a few striped bass.

BELLMORE

Kwak's Tackle Shop reported flounder fishing is good off Squaw Island, in Zach's Bay and at the second Wantagh Bridge. Pier fishing was not at its best, but everyone brought enough home for a meal. The first catch of mackerel (22) was brought in but there is no sign of a real run. Some boys managed to bring in the first weakfish (an 8 incher) of the year, while white perch fishing.

NEW YORK BIGHT

RONNIE LEPPER

FREEPORT

Ronnie Feuring of Sea Isle feels that the flounder fishing is holding its own after the blow of last week. The catches coming in from the flats are still very good. The Freeport Tuna Club just made a worthwhile change in their by-

laws. Instead of the yearly dues of \$35.00 per member, you now pay \$50. annual dues but your family is included in most tournaments and club derbies. Your wife, and children (from 12 to 18 years old) are also eligible for club awards and trophies.

Richie Keene of Charvin Fishing Station says the flounder fishing in Merrick Bay and Baldwin Bay remains the same, very good. He also saw catches of 300 to 400 lbs. of codfish taken by commercial set-liners leaving their lines in overnight in the area southeast of Jones Inlet and off the Lido area. Boats dragging in the area around Ambrose are making fine catches of ling and whiting.

Al Lindroth of the "Capt. Al" had a successful weekend with the flatties. Fishing the Squaw Island area flats, he managed to average two dozen fish per fare. There are five boats now leaving from the Freeport area, giving plenty of elbow room to each angler.

POINT LOOKOUT

Marilyn Wardle of Ed's Fishing Station traded quantity for quality this past week. Due to last week's blow, the fishing in her area slowed up, however, the remaining fish seemed to grow in size. One of Marilyn's steady fares had eight fish over 1½ pounds in his catch. Ed Sutter of Brooklyn had 50 good sized keepers fishing the flats near Buoy 18 and 20 at Swift Creek.

Capt. Henry Thorschmidt of the "Blue Albatross I" reports good fishing for all his fares. He will continue flounder fishing as long as the good fishing lasts.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Leon Miller of Henning's Fishing Station called to report a banner week. "Between the beautiful weather and the abundance of fish, we ran out of boats and motors very early," Leon happily complained. Jim Smith and Joe Litrenta of Hollis fished the north side of Buoy 5 in 8 to 10 feet of water on Saturday and caught 51 flatties up to 1¼ lbs. The top of the outgoing was the better tide. Ten year old Peter D'Abramo of Garden City, fishing with his father Sal, not only caught the most fish, but also the biggest. His 1½ lb. flounder was the best of a generous catch made by the family duo. On Sunday, Otto Gutzlaff, Roy Jungkurth and Ed Corbett of Brooklyn duplicated the success of the

previous day by bringing in 60 good sized keepers. Best areas this week were Post Lead, Green Sedge Point and Duck Point.

HOWARD BEACH

John Brando of Cross Bay Rod & Gun Shop seems satisfied with the fishing in his area. Both North and South Channel Bridges are still producing fine catches of flounders. Jeffrey Goodman of Lindenwood had 25 fish from the North Channel Bridge this week, with fish from 1 to 1½ lbs. being the rule.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Mike Maffia of Mike's Tackle saw a change in location of the good flounder fishing. Instead of the area around Kennedy Airport and the Silver Hole hotspot, he suggests a move to the flats at Manhattan Beach. A cold water wedge has moved into the previous hotspots after the blow of last week. Mike also told me that the Ranger tried an offshore trip this week. I'll give you the outcome next week as the printer wouldn't wait for the boat to come in.

Harold Anderson of the Bay End Dock reports the flounder action greatly improved on the flats at Plum Beach. Charlie DiPeri of Staten Island had 45 fish there this week up to 1½ lbs. Red dyed clams and worms were most productive. Harold also informed me that he will have to install additional stack racks to keep up with demand. They should be finished by the end of this season.

It is with much regret that I convey the news of the death of Tony Lauro of Stella Maris. Tony passed away this week after a short but serious illness. I knew Tony for more than 20 years. When I was a wet nosed kid fishing commercially during the off-school season around 1949, Tony allowed me to keep our boat at the place and also allowed us to sleep in the old lockers, never charging us for the privilege. Tony was always around to give us a hand with boat repairs and advice. In later years, I accompanied him and his brothers on nightly trips to net spearing and shiners, acquiring knowledge that still benefits me today. The Kings Bay Striper Club will hold its annual Striped Bass Invitational Tournament on June 22 and 23 this year, and along with prizes will be the Anthony Lauro Memorial Trophy.

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STATEN ISLAND

Lenny Killoran of Santo's Sport Shop reports that 1973 flounder season as being the best in 10 years. The rock jetty at Great Kills Park takes top place with the bulkhead and Glover St. coming in a close second. Decent catches are being made from Fort Wadsworth to Tottenville. Bob Hart of Staten Island weighed in his first striped bass of the season this week. The fish went 3½ lbs. Bob saw quite a few shorts taken in the same area. Great Kills Park was the place and sandworms were the bait. Len wanted me to remind all that his monthly Bass Contest has started. There's no

entry fee, just come in and sign up. The monthly prize is a \$10.00 give certificate for tackle. Lenny also runs a yearly bass tournament for boats only, with an entry fee of \$25.00 per boat. All fishermen on the boat are eligible. There are three prizes: 60%, 25% and 15% of all monies taken in. Trophies go along with the cash. Entries must be in by May 31st and the contest runs up to November 1st.

SANDY HOOK

Capt. Bunting of the "Sea Horse" claims the fishing as pretty slow after last week's weather. Big ground swells make fishing pretty tough. Bunt says all he can promise is a slow pick on cod and whiting. One good sign is the abundance of whiting being taken at the

Mud Hole by local draggers. Better than 500 lbs. seems to be the average. These fish will move in closer as soon as the weather stabilizes.

Joe Julian of the Atlantic Highlands tells me that the flounder fishing at Spermacitti Cove and the Rumson Bridge areas are excellent to fantastic. One major problem could put a crimp in that fine report. There seems to be a shortage of worms at this time and there's no help in sight.

"Back the New Striped Bass Fund. It may be your last chance to do anything." RL.

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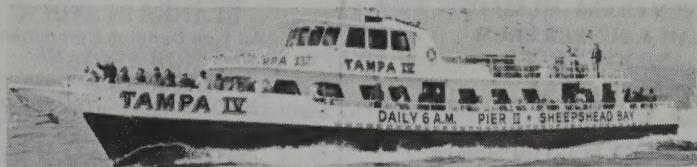
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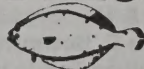
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LONG BRANCH

The action is still rather slow at the Long Branch Pier with a few ling being caught on squid and herring strips. Whiting should start showing any day now as the water temperature rises a few degrees. Bait and tackle is available at the pier.

SEABRIGHT

The Shrewsbury River and the Sandy Hook State Park are seeing some good flounder fishing according to Giglio's Tackle. Baits are clams and bloodworms.

MONMOUTH BEACH

Flaties are hitting well on clams and bloodworms, says Paul Siciliano of Monmouth Tackle. Bridge fishing is good at Seven Bridges Road in Little Silver and also at the bridges crossing the Shrewsbury and Navesink Rivers. Catches are running about 20 of these one pounders per angler. Stripers are reported at Leonardo in Sandy Hook Bay and in Raritan Bay.

BRIELLE

Winter flounder fishing is good in the Manasquan River and the Point Pleasant Canal, reports Bob Voorhees of MV Tackle. The herring run will be getting underway soon with some fishermen taking their catch home for dinner and others freezing it for use later as striper

baits or for whiting and ling. The party boats are doing well with smaller cod off shore.

TOMS RIVER

Ed Swartz of Bay Bridge Boats feels the flounder fishing is off because of the storm last week, but excellent catches were made over the weekend. The Mathis Bay Bridge is a good spot for flaties with clams or bloodworms and a half mile away at Good Luck Point, stripers are starting to hit worms too.

SEASIDE PARK

Harry Zimmerman of Toms River won the \$5.00 posted by Jean & Art's Tackle for the first surf-caught striper with a small string of bass weighting 4 to 5 lbs. on Tuesday. He caught three more on

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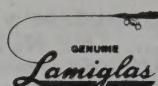
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MILLER PLACE, N.Y.

Sunday using bloodworms in Island Beach State Park. Flounder action is steady at Barnegat Inlet. In Barnegat Bay, small stripers are abundant but they are mostly shorts.

BERKLEY TOWNSHIP

The first bass of the season to be weighed in at Judy & Bill's Tackle Shop came from Bob Musial who snatched some 2½ pounders from the surf before last week's storm. Bass are available in the Bay and a lot of the flyrodders were out scouting around over the weekend. Flounder are hitting readily all throughout the bay with catches of 20 or more typical.

LONG BEACH ISLAND

The flounder fishing reports from Vince Goddard's at the Causeway Bridge are optimistic for the beach bound fisherman. All along the bulkheads flatties

are easily caught, while boat anglers are heading for Bonnet Island, Dutchman's Bay and along the creek banks. Last week's storm has eroded the beaches at Long Beach Island throwing the surf fishing off, although, back in the bay, some small stripers have been reported.

GREAT BAY

Ken Rivers has taken the heaviest New Jersey striper so far with a 9½ lb. fish. Tom Henrich of Great Bay Marina reported other bass up to 3 and 4 lbs. on bloodworms and white bucktails. Big Creek, the Mystic Islands and the Stink House are the best locations for flounder.

MULLICA RIVER

Striper fishing is on the upswing in the Mullica River, according to Dean Cramer of the Chestnut Neck Boat Yard. Bass are hitting worms and bucktails from the Parkway Bridge to the mouth of the River and out into the Inland Waterway at Buoys 18 and 20. Flounder fishing is good with some of these delicious flatfish weighing over a pound.

MARGATE

Flounder are the main attraction in the Margate area now, with good catches coming from Great Egg Harbor River and in the bay. White perch are mixed in and both the perch and the flounder

are better than 1 pound for most catches. Mackerel are expected by the end of next week or even earlier with more warm weather, and stripers should again start hitting well.

North Shore Reports

SCOTT SIMONS

GREENPORT

A.P. White of White's Bait Shop started off the weekend with a bang. He told this reporter that the fishing was "SUPER" all day.

Capt. Dave Green of the "Pooka III" fished east of the Greenport breakwater and by Buoy 14 and had 35 to 40 fish per man. Sunday was a different story. The fish were slow in coming but the Captain did manage to stir up fish.

SHELTER ISLAND

Shelter Island Marina reported that the flounders are beginning to show and that fish of up to 1½ pounds are around. These big fellows usually show up about the first week of April. Boats on Saturday were rewarded by some of these flounders.

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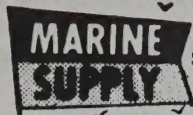
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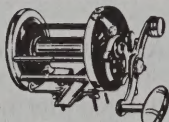
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SOUTHOLD

Bill of the Port of Egypt Fishing Station stated that Saturday was a terrific day for flounders. Sid Hirsh of Forest Hills and partners fished the East Marion section and came in with some 43 beauties. All were about 1 lb., but they did manage to have a 2 1/2 pounder with them. They kept only the larger of the fish. Frank Verlukas of Queens also connected on Saturday, fishing just off Greenport and at Fanning Point in the cove. He too had fish up to 2 lbs.

NEW SUFFOLK

John Masluk of Yonkers and Marty Fulton of Astoria teamed up and fished from Capt. Marty's Fishing Station on Saturday. They fished the North Race and came back to the dock with a nice mess of flounders from 2 to 3 lbs. Lou Bosso, Dom Petrone and Frank Wicinski of Staten Island also did a job on the flatties. They had 35 fish up to 2 lbs. Bob Longstreet of Queens, Ron Yesenofski of Brooklyn, and Bob Folstead of Queens connected with 49 fish up to 2 1/2 lbs. On Sunday, Ed Watson and Terry Stuart of the Bronx came back from fishing Nassau Point with a beautiful catch of 28 flounder up to 3 3/4 lbs. All the fish were taking mussels, clams and worms. Also on Sunday, and fishing Nassau Point, Cliff Brown and his party from Manhattan, had a bushel full of flatties. There were a few three pounders mixed in.

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PORT JEFFERSON

"Everyone had flounders," was the report from Carafitis Fishing Station. The tide was extra high and flooded the marshes. The mouths of all the inlets and estuaries produced the best catches. the problem was that on Sunday, worms were scarce, so everyone stood with clams and mussels.

NORTHPORT

STRIPERS is the word from Mort Smith of Larkfield Sports Center. The word is that the local sharpies are now active in fishing the warm water outlet of the Northport Power Plant and are taking bass up to 16 pounds. These are the winter holdovers that are now becoming active. Mort also reports good catches of flounder on the south shore. The Sound is also starting to show progress.

Ted Bowman said that flounder action is taking place. Richie Schubert of Commack took a 1 1/2 pounder from the dock at Northport. He also had several other fish on Saturday.

SMITHTOWN

The flounders are now active, reports George Pankovcin of Beacon On The Sound. They still are a little small but they are fat. Steve Nermeth of Kings Park had some fish on Saturday up to



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3/4 of a pound. He fished the last of the high and the first hour of the ebbing tide and found the flounder on the flats.



Little boy - big fish. Ricky Schubert of Commack, N.Y. with a 1 1/2 pound flounder which he caught from the Northport Harbor Dock on March 24. The flounder season is off to a great start. Photo courtesy of Bowman's Tackle.

COLD SPRING HARBOR

The boats did fine on both sides of the beach in Cold Spring Harbor. Milt Powles of Vets Fishing Station said that each boat had 45 to 50 flounders both Saturday and Sunday. Worms did the trick for most of the fishermen and fisherwomen.

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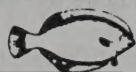
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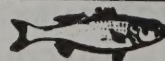
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GLEN COVE

"Some small blackfish were taken outside the Cove, and this is a sure sign that spring has sprung." John Cocciola of the Glen Cove Sports Shop also reported some small catches of flounder

in the cove, but nothing of any size really. Any day now things will explode and there will be flounders all over.

"Good flounders," reports Norm's Fishing Station. Fish are off Centre Island Beach, in the Sound, Bayville Bridge on both sides, and Oyster Bay Harbor in the oyster beds. Fish have been coming in all week, but Saturday they really went on the feed. No reports of any bass action; just a wee bit too early.

WHITESTONE

Flounders, tommy cod and a few small bass is the report from Vets Fishing Station. The bass are mostly small, with an occasional keeper thrown in. Worms are the problem here as that was the bait for the day, and they are scarce.

CITY ISLAND

Orchard Beach Lagoon is producing some beautiful catches of flounders, from ¾ to 1½ lbs. Jack Rumpf of Jack's Bait & Tackle also reports that one row-boat flounder fisherman connected with a 6 or 7 lb. striper while fishing in Turtle Cove. The bass took a small piece of worm on a flounder hook. Signs of bass movement grow more and more each day in the area.



Babylon mailmen show off their bag of 13 pheasants shot on the Spring Farm Preserve at Sag Harbor. The hunters are, left to right, Bob Di Gangi, Fred Guardineer, Paul Van Thomme, and Walter Oelschlaeger.

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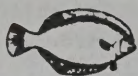
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TIDES: SOUTH SHORE SANDY HOOK STATION

DAY	A.M.	P.M.
Thur.	3:19	3:55
Fri.	4:21	4:51
Sat.	5:15	5:38
Sun.	6:01	6:21
Mon.	6:44	7:02
Tues.	7:27	7:45
Wed.	8:11	8:28
Thur.	8:58	9:15

	H.	M.
MANASQUAN	-0	12
STATEN ISLAND	+0	07
ROCKAWAY INLET	0	00
Beacon Beach	+0	29
J.F.K. Airport	+0	26
EAST ROCKAWAY INLET	-0	06
Long Beach Bridge	+0	19
JONES INLET	-0	19
Loop Pkwy. Bridge	+0	25
Zacks Bay	+1	25
Gilgo Island	+2	25
Seaford Harbor	+2	05
FIRE ISLAND INLET	-0	38
West Great South Bay	+2	10
Hooker State Park	+3	20
East Great South Bay	+3	44
MORICHES INLET	-0	56
Smiths Point	+3	28
Harts Cove	+1	30
Potauk Point	+3	35
SHINNECOCK INLET	-0	50
East Quogue	+2	45
Shinnecock Canal	+1	18
Indian Reservation	+3	05

TIDES: L.I. SOUND WILLETS POINT STATION

DAY	A.M.	P.M.
Thur.	6:42	7:43
Fri.	7:50	8:24
Sat.	8:41	9:07
Sun.	9:26	9:43
Mon.	10:05	10:21
Tues.	10:48	11:04
Wed.	11:33	11:47
Thur.	-----	12:16

	H.	M.
Little Neck Bay	-0	10
Execution Light	-0	06
Manhasset Bay	-0	01
Hempstead Harbor	-0	11
City Island	-0	03
Eye Beach	-0	28

TIDES: L.I. SOUND BRIDGEPORT STATION

DAY	A.M.	P.M.
Thur.	7:05	7:35
Fri.	7:58	8:23
Sat.	8:44	9:05
Sun.	9:30	9:50
Mon.	10:13	10:29
Tues.	10:57	11:12
Wed.	11:40	11:56
Thur.	-----	12:27

	H.	M.
Lloyd Point	+0	08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0	08
Bayville Bridge	+0	13
Eatons Neck Point	+0	03
Northport Bay	+0	03
Northwalk Islands	+0	10
Smithtown Bay	-0	03
Cranes Neck Point	+0	05
Port Jeff Harbor	+0	03
New Haven Harbor	-0	08
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0	08
Herod Point	-0	07
Mattituck Inlet	+0	19
Horton Point	-0	20
Truman Beach	-0	42

TIDES: B.I. SOUND NEW LONDON STATION

DAY	A.M.	P.M.
Thur.	5:10	5:45
Fri.	5:58	6:27
Sat.	6:46	7:09
Sun.	7:28	7:48
Mon.	8:10	8:28
Tues.	8:54	9:09
Wed.	9:39	9:54
Thur.	10:26	10:43

	H.	M.
Orient Point	+0	27
Connecticut River	+1	10
Little Gull Island (Race)	+0	12
Greenport	+1	04
Southold	+1	43
New Suffolk	+2	26
South Jamesport	+2	32
Shinnecock Canal	+2	33
Noyack Bay	+2	05
Sag Harbor	+0	59
Gardiners Bay	+0	21
Promised Land (Napeague)	-0	14
Fort Pond Bay	-0	29
Montauk Inlet	-0	25
Montauk Point	-1	13

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